



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
**SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION  
AND RESPONSE OFFICE**



## **CATCH PROGRAM TALKING POINTS FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATORS (SARC)<sup>1</sup>**

### General Background

*WARNING: The CATCH Program is a law enforcement program with an investigation purpose. SARCS can only notify the Restricted Reporting victim of the opportunity to enter the CATCH Program. SARCs shall only use these CATCH Program Talking Points to explain the CATCH Program. If a victim has any follow-up questions about the investigation or legal process, the SARCs shall offer the victim a referral to a Special Victims' Counsel/Victims' Legal Counsel (SVC/VLC). SARCs cannot encourage victims to take part in the CATCH Program because then the SARCs would be taking on "investigation functions." If the SARC is seen as taking on "investigation functions," this is outside the scope of "advocacy". The SARC is also possibly violating the Defense Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program (D-SAAP) Code of Ethics.*

### **Victim Considering Whether to Participate in CATCH Program**

- I would like to make you aware of a Department of Defense (DoD) program called Catch a Serial Offender Program, or "CATCH."
- The CATCH Program gives someone making a Restricted Report with a signed DD Form 2910 an opportunity to anonymously disclose suspect information. This can help the Department of Defense identify repeat offenders.
- The details you choose to provide will be compared to other entries in the CATCH website. Not all questions must be answered to submit a CATCH entry. The CATCH website is secure and can only be accessed if you have a Username and Password.
- If your information appears to match with others' entries, you will be confidentially notified. You can then decide whether to convert your Restricted Report to an Unrestricted Report and participate in the investigation of the suspect.
- Your participation in the CATCH Program is voluntary. Your Restricted Report will not be converted based on information provided for the CATCH Program without your permission. You may decline to participate in the CATCH Program at any point, even after being contacted that there was a potential "match" and there will be no adverse consequences for you.
- If you decide to participate in the CATCH Program, your entry in the CATCH website is anonymous. As a result, your command will not be informed of your participation in the CATCH Program, and you will not be asked for your name or any identifying information on the CATCH website.

### **For More Information**

- I am limited in what I can discuss with you in my role as your SARC (or Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Victim Advocate (VA)), because I can only provide you advocacy, not legal advice. However, there are other resources you might find helpful that I can direct you to.
- I can provide you with a "CATCH Program Victim Info Sheet" that has Frequently Asked Questions. [print Victim Info Sheet at the DoD SAPRO website at <[www.sapr.mil](http://www.sapr.mil)>]

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<sup>1</sup> Access to the CATCH website will be restricted to SARCs or those SAPR Victim Advocates that are specifically authorized to use the Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database (DSAID).

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- I can also give you a copy of the CATCH website questions that you will be asked when completing the CATCH entry, so you know what to expect. [print a blank hard copy watermarked form (“CATCH a Serial Offender Program Incident Details”) for the victim at the DoD SAPRO website at <www.sapr.mil>]
- If you have legal questions before deciding (and you are eligible) I can refer you to a Special Victims’ Counsel (SVC) (Army, Air Force, National Guard) or Victims’ Legal Counsel (VLC) (Navy, USMC), who is your personal attorney (not a prosecutor or a defense attorney). They can help answer your questions about the CATCH Program.
- **I am always here to provide you support during this process.**
- If at any point you need to speak to someone immediately, you can reach the DoD Safe Helpline for anonymous and confidential, 24/7 crisis support at 877-995-5247 or [www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org).

### If Victim Decides to Participate in CATCH Program

- I will print out for you a Username and Password that will expire after first use or in 10 calendar days from today. [print out Username and Password at the CATCH Website <<https://catch.ncis.navy.mil>>]
  - Once you first use them to log on, you will be able to log in two additional times during the first 24 hours, after which the Username and Password will expire and you cannot use them to log on another time.
  - Let me repeat it so I know that you understand -- during that 24-hour timeframe you can log on total of three times.
  - Once you log on, the system will lock you out if it remains idle for 15 minutes and your information will not be automatically saved. ***I will give you a pocket card that has all these timeframes.*** [print out pocket card at the DoD SAPRO website at <[www.sapr.mil/catch](http://www.sapr.mil/catch)>]
  - To save your information, you “click” through all the screens, go to a final page where you review your entries, and then select “Submit Report”. You only actually need to complete one field to be able to submit a report.
  - Information can be lost if you leave your computer idle for more than 15 minutes when filling out the form and the system logs you out, or if you did not select “Submit Report” on the last page when you filled out your entry.
- If you don’t feel ready to submit your information, you can always come back later and submit a CATCH Program entry when you feel ready. If you decide to do this some other time, please contact me for a new Username and Password for the CATCH website.
- There is no requirement for you to participate in the CATCH Program. Any information you provide is voluntary, and you do not need to gather additional information.
- Before you log on to the CATCH website to submit your entry, you can review the list of questions that you will be asked, so you know what to expect. I can print out those questions for you. Not all questions must be answered to submit a CATCH entry. Just answer what you feel comfortable answering. Like I mentioned, to make a CATCH submission you only have to fill in one field.
- After you submit your entry to the CATCH website, if you remember additional information or would like to add to your entry, contact me for a new Username and Password for the website. When you return and log in, you will see a blank entry form. You don’t have to fill out the entire form again. Only put information into the field or space needing to be updated. The system will combine both entries.
- Your name and information will remain anonymous unless you decide to participate in an investigation and convert your Restricted Report to Unrestricted.
- The CATCH website does not have the capability of uploading photos at this time, but you can mail in hard copy suspect photos or other relevant photos. I can give you the CATCH Program

Headquarters address and your anonymous “Victim Reference Number” so the photo can be linked up with your website entry.

- Please contact me to update your contact information, if it changes in the future.

### **Services for Victims no Longer on Title 10 Orders**

- Each Service will determine what support (advocacy and SVC/VLC services) to provide to victims who are no longer on Title 10 orders and their adult dependents. SARCs need to check with their Service SAPR Headquarters for guidance in this area.

## **CATCH PROGRAM TALKING POINTS FOR “CATCH VICTIM CONTACT POCs”<sup>2</sup> WHEN THERE IS A POTENTIAL “MATCH” IN CATCH**

### **Contacting the Victim When There Is a Potential “Match” in the CATCH Website:**

Upon being contacted of a potential “match” in the CATCH system, the “CATCH Victim Contact POC” will obtain the victim contact information from the DD Form 2910 for the Restricted Reporting victim and use it to notify the victim. There is no independent duty to investigate the location of the victim, so the “CATCH Victim Contact POC” shall only use the information provided by the victim on the DD Form 2910 in order to protect the victim’s privacy. The “CATCH Victim Contact POC” will notify the victim of the potential “match” and ask if the victim wants to convert their case from Restricted to Unrestricted.

### **Below are suggested Talking Points:**

- I am contacting you because you submitted your name in the Catch a Serial Offender website and there has been a potential “match” to another victim(s).
- I have been told that there is/are [provide number of victims that matched] victim(s).
- [If it’s the case] one of the “matches” comes from a victim in an Unrestricted case.
- I do not have any more information for you about the nature of the offenses that triggered the potential “match,” so I cannot answer any additional questions.
  - If you have any follow-up questions about the investigation or legal process, I can provide you a referral to a Special Victims’ Counsel (Army, Air Force, National Guard) or Victims’ Legal Counsel (Navy, USMC), who is your personal attorney, not a prosecutor or a defense attorney. They can help answer your questions about the CATCH Program.
- You will have 30 calendar days to decide whether to convert to Unrestricted.
- If at the end of the 30 calendar days, you haven’t contacted me, I will reach out to you to ask whether you have made a decision. Then, you can decide to do any of the following:
  - You can decide to convert your report from Restricted to Unrestricted,
  - You can decide not to participate this time, but agree to be contacted if there is a future “match.” It’s your choice and there are no negative consequences for you if you decide not to participate,
  - You can also “opt out” of the CATCH Program and we will not contact you again,
  - Or, if you are not ready to make a decision and the 30 days have elapsed, you can always contact me later.

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<sup>2</sup> Each Military Service will determine the best contact solution for victim situation/location for contact, identified as “CATCH Victim Contact POC”, that is Defense Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program (D-SAACP) certified and has access to DSAID.

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- If you decide to convert to Unrestricted,
  - I will ask you to come in and [see me] [see a SARC<sup>3</sup>], so that you can sign the DD Form 2910 again and indicate that your reporting option is now Unrestricted.
  - Your commander will be contacted. He or she will then contact the military investigator so that the investigation can begin.
  - The military investigator will be contacting you to get your statement.
  - You have the right to be represented by a Special Victims' Counsel/Victims' Legal Counsel, who is your own attorney. I can give you that referral, if you would like.
- **I am also here to provide you support through this process.**

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<sup>3</sup> The CATCH Victim Contact POC may be determined by the Services to be the local SARC already.